

**WASHINGTON STATE VACCINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAC)**  
**RECOMMENDATION FOR USE OF HEPATITIS A VACCINE**

As unanimously agreed upon in the January 12, 2006 VAC meeting, the Committee recommends full acceptance of the Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices' (ACIP) provisional recommendations for use of hepatitis A vaccine (HAV) to vaccinate children (October 2005) for Washington State.

**Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP)**

**Provisional Recommendations for Hepatitis A Vaccination of Children:**

- All children should receive hepatitis A vaccine at 1 year of age (i.e., 12-23 months). Vaccination should be completed according to the recommended schedules and integrated into the routine childhood and adolescent health care visits. Children who are not vaccinated by 2 years of age can be vaccinated at subsequent visits.
- States, counties, and communities with existing hepatitis A vaccination programs for children 2-18 years are encouraged to maintain these programs. In these areas, new efforts focused on routine vaccination of 1 year old children should enhance, not replace, ongoing programs directed at a broader population of children.
- In areas without existing hepatitis A vaccination programs, catch-up vaccination of unvaccinated children aged 2-18 years can be considered. Such programs might especially be warranted in the context of rising incidence or ongoing outbreaks among children or adolescents.

Note existing hepatitis A vaccination recommendations for groups at increased risk remain unchanged.